

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USDOCOSOUTH
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
CINCUSAFE

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TAGS: PGOV, GR, CY, TU

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SUBJECT: STATEMENT BY CONGRESSMEN BENJAMIN S. ROSENTHAL (D-N.Y.) AND JOHN BRADEMAS (D-IND.) ON TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO
VOTE IN HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT ISSUED EVENING MAY 3:

QTE WE ARE EXTREMELY GRATIFIED AT THE RESULT OF THIS

MORNING'S HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE VOTE ON THE TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO. ALTHOUGH WE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED OF COURSE DEFEATING AT THE COMMITTEE LEVEL THE ADMINISTRATION'S ATTEMPT TO LIFT THE EMBARGO, THE NARROWNESS OF THE VOTE--18 TO 17 TO LIFT IT--MAKES US CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL PREVAIL WHEN THE FULL HOUSE CONSIDERS THIS ISSUE LATER THIS MONTH.

THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE HAS TRADITIONALLY STRONGLY SUPPORTED ANY INCUMBENT ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY TOWARD THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S ONE-VOTE MARGIN TODAY, THEREFORE, REPRESENTS A SERIOUS--AND BIPARTISAN--EROSION OF SUPPORT FOR ITS POLICY. IN FACT, IF THE TWO COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AT TODAY'S MEETING HAD BEEN PRESENT, THE ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORT WOULD HAVE BEEN DEFEATED.

AS IT WAS, THE 17 VOTES CAST IN FAVOR OF KEEPING THE EMBARGO UNTIL TURKEY TAKES THE ACTIONS NECESSARY TO A SETTLEMENT ON CYPRUS MARK THE STRONGEST SUPPORT FOR THIS POSITION IN THE COMMITTEE IN THE NEARLY FOUR YEARS OF THE TURKISH OCCUPATION.

WE THANK THOSE COMMITTEE MEMBERS WHO VOTED TO SUPPORT THE RULE OF LAW AND THE PRINCIPLED CONDUCT OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO A VICTORY FOR THESE IDEALS
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IN BOTH THE HOUSE AND SENATE. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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